

EMF SE Conference

26 -27.02.04

Spröckhovel

The European Metalworkers' Federation worked in the last two years on several occasions already about the SE. Three seminars were already organised for the members of the EMF Company Policy Committee (previous name : EMF EWC Task Force) between 2000 and 2003.

A workgroup was also established in 2001 to elaborate EMF Guidelines on the SE. These SE Guidelines contain five chapters :

1. Basic principles
2. Special Negotiating Body
3. Information and Consultation
4. Participation
5. Training

After long discussions, sometimes political and ideological, on issues such as participation, the financial remuneration, number of seats in the board, election of board members, etc... we finally reached an agreement, approved by the EMF Executive committee on 12th. June 2003.

As a result of this, the EMF Company Policy Committee, organised a conference on the SE on 26 and 27 February 2004 in Sprockhövel (Germany). About 50 participants coming from 17 different countries attended a conference where we focused on three topics :

1. The existing monistic and dual system of board representation in European countries
2. The SE Regulation and Workers' involvement directive
3. The EMF SE Guidelines

The conference had a number of excellent speakers such as Heinz Hawreliuk (IG Metall, head of department company level co-determination), Norbert Kluge (ETUI), Ulf Akesson (SIF Sweden), Roland Köstler (Head of Economic law department HBS).

Luc Triangle, chair EMF Company Policy Committee Select Working Party gave an introduction on the EMF SE Guidelines.

The conference was chaired by Bart Samyn, deputy General Secretary EMF. Reinhard Kuhlmann, EMF General Secretary, highlighted in his conclusions the importance of this SE Statute and the workers' involvement implications.

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